



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20463

RQ-2

July 6, 2005

Drew Smith, Treasurer
Democratic Party of Arkansas
1300 West Capitol Avenue
Little Rock, AR 72201

**Response Due Date:
August 5, 2005**

Identification Number: C00024372

Reference: March Monthly Report (2/1/05 – 2/28/05)

Dear Mr. Smith:

This letter is prompted by the Commission's preliminary review of the report(s) referenced above. This notice requests information essential to full public disclosure of your federal election campaign finances. **An adequate response must be received at the Commission by the response date noted above.** An itemization of the information needed follows:

-The beginning cash balance of this report should equal the ending balance of your 2005 February Monthly Report. Please clarify this discrepancy and amend any subsequent report(s) that may be affected by this correction.

-The totals listed on Lines 11(a)(i) and 11(a)(ii), Column B of the Detailed Summary Page appear to be incorrect. Please be advised that you should add the "Calendar Year-to-Date" total from your previous report to the current "Total This Period" figure from Column A to derive the correct Column B totals. When an individual's aggregate exceeds the \$200 threshold, the amount should not be deducted from the Column B figure for Line 11(a)(ii). Please amend your report and any subsequent reports that may be affected by this correction.

-Your report discloses a transfer(s) for "repl funds for administrative expenses" to the "Democratic Party – Non Federal Account" which appears to be a non-federal account of your committee. 11 CFR §§106.6 and 106.7 prohibits a committee's federal account from reimbursing its non-federal account for shared allocable expenses. Also, the non-federal account is prohibited from paying the federal account's share of these expenses. These types of costs must be paid according to the allocation ratio derived from the appropriate method on Schedule H1.

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If the transfer(s) in question was incompletely or incorrectly disclosed, you should amend your original report with clarifying information. If your non-federal account has paid any expenditures which should have been allocated, you are advised to correct any non-compliance with 11 CFR §§106.6 and 106.7 and establish procedures to insure future compliance with allocation regulations.

Although the Commission may take further legal action regarding this improper allocation activity, your prompt action will be taken into consideration.

-Schedule H4 of your report discloses a disbursement(s) for "hotel at national convention." Please be advised that expenses related to sending a delegate to a National Convention do not qualify as shared expenses to be allocated between your federal and non-federal accounts. Federal operating expenses should be disclosed on a Schedule B supporting Line 21(b) of the Detailed Summary Page. Any reimbursement from your committee's non-federal account for this disbursement(s) is not permissible and should be transferred-out immediately. 11 CFR §102.5(a)(1)(i) Please amend your report to clarify the disbursement(s).

Unlike previous election cycles, you will not receive an additional notice from the Commission on this matter. Adequate responses received on or before this date will be taken into consideration in determining whether audit action will be initiated. **Requests for extensions of time in which to respond will not be considered.** Failure to provide an adequate response by this date may result in an audit of the committee. Failure to comply with the provisions of the Act may also result in an enforcement action against the committee. Any response submitted by your committee will be placed on the public record and will be considered by the Commission prior to taking enforcement action.

Electronic filers must file amendments (to include statements, designations and reports) in an electronic format and must submit an amended report in its entirety, rather than just those portions of the report that are being amended. If you should have any questions regarding this matter or wish to verify the adequacy of your response, please contact me on our toll-free number (800) 424-9530 (at the prompt press 5 to reach the Reports Analysis Division) or my local number (202) 694-1148.

Sincerely,

Brandis L. Zehr

Brandis L. Zehr
Campaign Finance Analyst
Reports Analysis Division

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